UNITARIAN WORD & WORK

MAY 1916

The Monthly Bulletin of the American Unitarian Association, The Alliance of Unitarian Women, Young People's Religious Union, and The Unitarian Temperance Society

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THE UNITARIAN NATIONAL SOCIETIES

REPRESENTED IN THIS ISSUE OF WORD AND WORK

ALL OF THESE SOCIETIES have their headquarters in the building of the American Unitarian Association, 25 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass. The names of the principal officers of each society will be found on the first pages of the sections devoted to their respective organizations. The work and purpose of these societies may be stated in brief as follows:

THE AMERICAN UNITARIAN ASSOCIATION

THE ASSOCIATION was founded in 1825, its object being "to diffuse the knowledge and promote the interests of pure Christianity." In furtherance of this purpose the Association publishes books, reports, and tracts; supports missionaries; establishes and maintains churches, and aids in supporting ministers; assists students in preparing for the ministry; and helps fellow-citizens of foreign birth and speech in entering upon their American life. It administers endowments for the benefit of schools and churches of the Unitarian order; for the relief of poor and worthy ministers and the widows of ministers; for providing public lectures in centers of population; for the benefit of schools for colored people in the South; and for many other beneficent purposes.

THE ALLIANCE OF UNITARIAN WOMEN

THE NATIONAL ALLIANCE was organized in 1890, and has for its aims primarily to quicken the religious life of the Unitarian churches, and to bring the women of the denomination into closer acquaintance, co-operation and fellowship; to promote local organizations of women for missionary and denominational work; to bring them into helpful association; to collect and disseminate information regarding all matters of interest to the denomination, such as needs of local societies, facilities for meeting these needs, work to be done, the collection and distribution of money, and in general to devise ways and means for the most efficient usefulness of the women of the Unitarian fellowship.

THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S RELIGIOUS UNION

THE UNION was organized in 1896, and its purposes are to foster the religious life; to bring the young people of the Unitarian churches into closer relations with one another; and to spread rational views of religion and to put into practice such principles of life and duty as tend to uplift mankind. The cardinal principles of the Union are truth, worship and service. It maintains a field secretary to promote the organization of the young people and to extend the fellowship of the Union.

THE UNITARIAN TEMPERANCE SOCIETY

THE TEMPERANCE SOCIETY is practically the working committee of the Unitarian churches to promote the cause of temperance in every way possible. It publishes and freely distributes addresses, pamphlets, leaflets and tracts, and furnishes temperance news and facts to the public press. It arranges for conferences on the subject of temperance and sends speakers to general meetings where this subject may properly have a share in the interest and attention.

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EDITORIAL

WITHIN five years nearly sixty Unitarian ministers have died. The majority of them were still active and many of them at the summit of their professional career.

In not a few instances these ministers were known throughout our denomination as men of exceptional power and brilliancy and their lives for many years will be associated with the finest traditions of our body. Their faces and their voices and their individual messages must, necessarily, in so small a fellowship as our own, be sadly missed by Unitarian congregations and conferences. They have fought a good fight and kept our annals true to the spirit of freedom in religion and added weight and dignity to the cause for which our churches stand.

Many of those who have passed from our ranks in this short period deserve expressions of grateful appreciation on the part of all Unitarians who desire the extension of our faith and the increasing influence of the truth as we see and proclaim it.

THE roll-call cannot be given in the short space of these editorial columns; but owing to the denominational interest of the work done by Charles Elliott St. John it seems fitting to refer to some of the characteristics of his splendid record. While Secretary of the American Unitarian Association Mr. St. John became known to nearly all the Unitarian churches of this country as well as to the general administrative organizations of Great Britain and Hungary.

As one looks back over his professional life the quality which immediately commands attention was his singleness and constancy of purpose. The writer can vividly recall the "young St. John" as he appeared at the Weirs meetings one frightfully hot day in the summer of 1882, after a long walk over the hills of New Hampshire. At that time he gave the impression that, for the glory of God and the good of the cause, the hardest way was the best way to apostolic achievement. He seemed to scorn a trip of twenty miles by rail or boat when walking over a dusty road and under a hot sun was a possible alternative. Dogged perseverance in the performance of difficult tasks characterized Mr. St. John throughout his professional career. His personality became synonymous with a sort of Pauline hospitality to all kinds of apostolic hardships. He was here to do the work and overcome the difficulties that a minister of Christ is supposed to encounter and he gave the impression that the ministry apart from its burdens was of small account.

His gospel was centered around the belief in immortality. Take this cardinal doctrine from his message and it lost its prophetic quality. All his ethics were those of one who believed that conduct in this world determined the character and dignity of life in the

world to come. With him there was no temporizing with justice. His sympathies were deep and lasting and he carried with him an enduring faith in the possibilities of every human soul. Life to him was divine and its purpose was to anneal and beautify the soul to make its worthy of its ascending destiny. Such characters give stability and permanence to any fellowship and happy is that denomination who can count among its leaders those who have the daring faith, the chivalrous loyalty and the religiously romantic vision of Dr. St. John.

THE current discussion concerning the lack of young men for the ministry reveals the fact that we are dealing with a complex and many-sided situation. The problem which is presented is not one which yields to a simple solution, like the improvement of the economic conditions of the ministry. It and its corollaries are related to the whole fabric of modern society, Catholic and Protestant, orthodox and heterodox. The ministry is replenished and the pulpit is re-enforced from the social aggregate; but, if society contains little or no material for the making of ministers the pulpit must go a-begging.

The character of any given age is determined not so much by the thoughts as by the *desires* of the age immediately before it. To have a great school of artists, there must first appear a company of men and women who yearn for the creation of the beautiful. To have a generation of great theologians, there must first arrive a group of Monicas, Jeanne Lefrancs, and Esther Stoddards. In short, society furnishes what is truly desired by its members. This view of the problem is supported by a brief canvass, recently made by the writer, of twenty-five of our own successful ministers. The question was put, "Why did you make the ministry the object of your life interest?" It was the intention of the *questionaire* to tabulate the answers but they were so uniform and almost identical in the majority of instances that no "Table" could be made. One note which ran through all the replies was *the directing influences of youth.* "It was my father's wish when I was a babe lying in the cradle that I should become a minister and all unknown to me I was guided and influenced in that direction."

Others write, "It was mother's dying wish that I should be as my father was before me, a minister of religion. It was taken for granted and though I myself resisted, the preaching blood became irresistable." "Early training, definitely religious, with family worship." "I never knew till at my ordination my mother told me that long before I was born she had dedicated me to the work of the ministry. Prenatal influence had done its work. I was born to preach as one is born a poet, a painter or a musician." Still another writes "The urge of natural talents. The urge of religious association and the urge of mature conviction. All conspired to make the ministry my chosen profession."

To account for a falling off in any profession or "calling" it is pertinent to ask if anything has been "called" for. The word which distinguishes this age from all others is the word "commercial." Parents are not asking Heaven or the world for children of the ministerial type. There are, therefore, natal and parental reasons why so few young men come to enter a profession which finds its satisfaction in "things not seen." The fathers and mothers of, say, the last thirty years have not been longing for ministers, but on the whole have been educating themselves and their children in various superficial methods of getting away from ministers. They have been praying for fortunes, luxuries, pleasures, freedom to indulge in each new devise for amusement, exemption from care and responsibility, titles, decorations and social favors. And the type of the modern young man, dapper, sophisticated, well groomed, luxurious and selfish, is the answer to such prayers.

AMONG the replies to the *questionaire* put to the aforesaid twenty-five ministers, there were two other reasons less often repeated, why they had chosen to make the ministry their life interest. 1. The discovery of power in themselves to influence people by means of public address, and, 2. The compelling desire to become a preacher of the truth. In the first instance growing power and the love of leadership and the consciousness of strength to mold the thoughts and impulses of the people, and in the second instance a protest against error and a compelling passion to correct it were paramount. But even in these instances the discovery that the ministry offered a field for self-expression was inspired by parental encouragement and favorable environment.

It would thus appear that the one supreme source from which the ministry is to be recruited is not prudential in its nature, nor economic, but spiritual. Hardly any reference was made in these replies to financial advantage or disadvantage. The question of remuneration was scarcely referred to. The one dominating note was a spiritual one. The ministry has been supplied from the fountains of life and not because of any inducement which the world itself could offer. These facts should be taken into account by those who are trying to solve the problem of replenishing the impoverished pulpit of today. Writes one minister, "I knew it was foolish to abandon the promise of winning the prizes of a business career for the almost certain penury of the ministry. I knew that great preachers had a bodily presence and a personal magnetism which I did not possess. I knew that I was forever setting myself apart from the sympathies of the ordinary man of the world. But nothing mattered as against the urge of my vocation." And then he adds, "I am wondering if anybody ever has any influence in the ministry who does not enter it on such compulsion? That is why I am slow to advise young men to prepare for the ministry unless they are driven to it by an irresistable impulse."

THE advance program for the May Meetings of 1916 is full of promise. Each division of organized Unitarianism, whether it be the American Unitarian Association, the Sunday School Society, or independent organizations like the Laymen's League, the Women's Alliance, etc., presents a series of meetings full of vital interest.

Just before the reception on Monday evening there will be a laymen's meeting at the Engineer's Club, corner of Boylston and Arlington Streets. It is devoutly to be desired that the laymen in our churches shall give this meeting their special attention. Throughout our body there are signs of a renewed interest on the part of the young men who are assuming the responsibilities and obligations of Unitarian work, and it is hoped that at this meeting a note will be struck which will be an inspiration for delegates and life members throughout the week. The laymen attending this meeting will have ample time to reach the Somerset Hotel, where the reception conducted by the Hospitality Committee will be held.

Preparations have been made for the usual jubilation on Wednesday evening, when the Festival will be held in Tremont Temple. The detailed program of the entire week will appear, as usual, in the *Christian Register* and in other Unitarian publications.

American Unitarian Association

Headquarters: 25 Beacon Street, Boston

Rev. Samuel A. Eliot, D.D., *President* — Henry M. Williams, *Treasurer*
Rev. Louis C. Cornish, *Secretary* — F. Stanley Howe, *Assistant Secretary*

Ministerial Personals

Rev. David Holmgren died at Minneapolis on April 13th.

Rev. Maxwell Savage has resigned at Louisville, Ky., to accept a call to Lynn, Mass.

Rev. Oscar B. Hawes has resigned at Germantown, Pa., to accept a call to Newton Centre, Mass.

Rev. E. S. Meredith has resigned at the Third Religious Society, Dorchester, to accept a call to Watertown.

Rev. J. A. Hayes has accepted a call to Bolton, Mass., and Rev. G. L. Thompson to Northfield, Mass.

Rev. C. F. Dole has resigned at Jamaica Plain, Mass. after a service of forty years.

Rev. E. B. Gearhart was installed at Manchester, N. H., on April 4, and Rev. H. H. Schumacher at Hingham on April 9.

Rev. C. A. Allen has resigned at Waverley, Mass. He has become Pastor Emeritus and Rev. S. S. Booth has taken active charge of the work.

Rev. E. B. Maglathlin has resigned at West Bridgewater after a pastorate of twenty-two years.

Mr. George A. Mark has accepted a call to All Souls Church, Roxbury.

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Association will be held in Tremont Temple on May 23rd. At the morning session at ten o'clock the devotional exercises will be led by Rev. James A. Fairley of New York. The Treasurer's statement and the Secretary's report will then follow. Mr. Lawrance will make a brief statement in behalf of the Star Island Committee. Dr. Samuel M. Crothers and Rev. William L. Sullivan will make addresses on "Our Liberal Evangelism", Mr. Sullivan describing its spirit and Dr. Crothers dealing with its method. The important report of the Commission on the Recruiting of the Ministry will be presented and the morning session will close with the annual address of the President.

At the afternoon session there will be the usual transaction of business, the election of Officers and Directors, and four addresses on various phases of the work of the Association by Rev. Francis Watry, of Long Beach, Cal.; Rev. Charles F. Potter, of Edmonton, Can.; Rev. Thomas P. Byrnes, of Erie, Penn., who has recently been the Association's missionary in Tennessee and Alabama, and Rev. Palfrey Perkins of Brighton, who has made a similar journey in Colorado and Nebraska.

In the evening the Anniversary service will be held in Tremont Temple, conducted by Rev. Charles E. Park and Rev. Fred R. Lewis, and the sermon will be preached by Rev. U. G. B. Pierce, D.D., of Washington. The music will be led by the choir of the Second Church in Boston.

Conferences

The spring months are the season for many local and district Conference meetings. The Meadville Conference held a very successful gathering at Youngstown, O., on March 28-29. The Priestley Conference is to meet at Vineland, N. J., on May 4th. The Southern Conference met at Richmond, Va., April 25-27. The Pacific Conference is to meet at San Diego the first week in May and the Western Conference is to meet at St. Louis on May 16-17. The local Conferences in Massachusetts, so far as now known, are to meet as follows:

Essex Conference at Gloucester on June 21. North Middlesex at Littleton in the middle of June. South Middlesex at Billerica on June 7. Norfolk at Medfield on June 14. Plymouth and

Bay at Green Harbor on May 11. Channing at Providence on April 26. Worcester at Gardner on June 7 and 8. Connecticut Valley at Pittsfield on May 10.

The Ministry

One of the most important matters to be taken up at the May meetings in Boston is the report of the special Commission on the Recruiting of the Ministry. This report is to be made at the meeting of the Association on Tuesday, May 23d. The Commission has devoted a great deal of time and strength to this most important business and its report is likely to contain suggestions and recommendations of far-reaching significance. It should be more widely understood that the success of our cause waits on our ability to recruit the ministry with able, tactful, and devout leaders.

Anniversaries

The Seventy-fifth Anniversary of the Church of the Disciples in Boston was celebrated last month with appropriate exercises carried over a week. The success and the continued serviceableness of this free and vital church is a proof of the possibilities of a democratic church organization. To be sure, a very remarkable group of people has always been connected with the Church of the Disciples and its ministerial leadership has been preeminent. Nevertheless, the history of the church has demonstrated that freedom and efficiency in religion are not always incompatible.

Next month the Church in Quincy, Ill., will observe a similar anniversary. Rev. Lewis G. Wilson, the Editorial Secretary of the Association, will be present to represent the fellowship of the churches.

The Icelandic Unitarian Church in Winnipeg celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary on April 20th. This was the first and for a long time the only Unitarian Church in Western Canada.

Finances

The time and attention of the officers of the Association has been focussed during the past month upon the financial situation. The deplorable habit of the majority of the churches of delaying the payment of their contributions for the support of their collective work until the last week, and often the last day, of the financial year, imposes an unnecessary and very serious burden of anxiety and labor upon those who are charged by the churches with administrative responsibility. If, during the past month, their letters to the ministers and churches have seemed a bit urgent it is because the situation has been and at this writing still is ominous.

When this number of *Word and Work* is issued the books will have been closed. At the moment when this paragraph is written, only a few days before the end of the year, **no contribution has been received from more than half of the Unitarian churches.** It is obvious that the exceptionally late date of Easter is partly responsible for this situation. Many churches have formed the habit of taking a collection for the Association on that day and doubtless the closing days of the year will see a congestion in the Treasurer's office.

Department of Religious Education

The annual meeting of the Unitarian Sunday School Society occurs, this year, on Thursday of Anniversary Week, one day earlier than in previous years. The forenoon session will be held, as usual, in King's Chapel. There will be the necessary business proceedings and the annual report of the President. Following these will be reports of the committees on lantern slides, on Sunday-school extension, and on the school and the home. These committees have been active during the past year, the first in promoting pictorial methods in religious education, the second in organizing our Sunday-school forces for aggressive missionary work, and the third in uniting the school and the home in a common task. The morning session will close with an address by Rev. Augustus P. Reccord, of Springfield,

Mass., on "The Pedagogical Value of Curiosity".

For the afternoon session Ford Hall has been secured, partly because of the expectation of a large attendance and partly because of the nature of the exercises at this session. Instead of addresses on principles and methods there will be a series of practical demonstrations of graphic and dramatic ways of impressing religious truth. Mr. Allen French, of Concord, Mass., will show a series of stereopticon slides, partly for the purpose of acquainting our workers with the excellent equipment the Department of Religious Education is accumulating in this line and partly to show how to make pictures distinctly useful in Sunday-school work. Miss Margaret E. Sayward will tell a story adapted to children and illustrate the principles of educative story-telling. Rev. Florence Buck will then teach a class of neighborhood children, gathered at that moment for the first time, and secure from them immediate reaction in dramatic form, to illustrate the importance and right method of securing impression through expression. A plan to illustrate by example the use of pageantry in religious education has been interrupted by the illness of the one who was to have taken charge. An effort is being made to have the plan carried out by another. The afternoon will close with a brief Bible Drama, presented by the Sunday school of Quincy, Mass.

Three plays for Sunday-school children have been added to the number offered by our Bureau of Exchange Plays. One, illustrating a practical application of the Christmas spirit, was prepared by Mrs. Ruth Harrison Straffin, and was successfully given by the children in the Kindergarten Department of the Newburyport, Mass., Unitarian Sunday school. This bears the title of "The Happy Family on Christmas Eve" and is numbered 111 on our list. Another, celebrating the coming of spring, is by Miss Esther Kendall Davis. This is entitled "The Awakening of Nature" and is numbered 112. A third, composed by Rev. Arthur H. Sargent, is based on the imagined proceedings of a high-school group in a State university. This is called "Choosing a Profession" and is No. 113 on our list. The price of each of these plays, in manuscript form, is $1.50.

The three Summer Institutes of Religious Education are now fully planned and promise to be of much help to those who attend. The dates should be remembered: Andover, N. H., June 25 to July 1; Meadville, Pa., July 6 to 21; Star Island, July 23 to 29. Churches, schools, Alliances, and appreciative parents cannot do a finer or wiser service than in providing scholarships for faithful teachers in the Sunday school, enabling them to attend these institutes. In scores of instances this is done every year. But the best results cannot be secured until every teacher and officer in every Unitarian Sunday school has at least the opportunity to enter into the inspiring and developing life of these summer gatherings. Programs will soon be issued and may be secured by application to the Secretary of the Department of Religious Education, 25 Beacon St., Boston.

Department of Social and Public Service

The plans for the Social Service Institute which will be held at Meadville in August and September are well under way. As before, it will be conducted by the Meadville Theological School and this Department. The general topic for study will be "A Social Program and how to realize it": in local communities, in the state, in the nation, and in the world through the international organization of social forces.

Professor Anna Garlin Spencer will have a course of lectures extending throughout the entire session, in which she will present the general subject under different aspects. In the first week she will set forth the essential elements of a social program, defining the normal life and how to secure it; in the second her lectures will be on the

social evils which must be destroyed before social life can be normal; in the third she will show how responsibility is divided between the local community, the state, and the nation, in the realizing of a social program. Finally she will describe church organization for social ends, and the natural leadership of the liberal church in civic efforts for social welfare.

Professor Spencer's lectures will serve as the frame-work for the whole institute. They will outline the general topic, and the other lectures will round out the different phases of the subject. A corps of lecturers, experts of training and experience, have been secured for courses covering the organization of social progress.

The school has been able to avail itself of the visit to this country of Mr. R. F. Farley of London, who is a lecturer at Manchester College, Oxford, on social experiments in continental Europe. It is expected that he will give eight or ten lectures, covering experiments which have been tried in Switzerland, Belgium, Holland, Denmark, France, and Germany, selecting for discussion that phase of social organization which each country has worked out most interestingly and successfully. Thus, in the lectures dealing with Switzerland he will speak of unemployment and the means of dealing with it, the international association for labor legislation, educational experiments, and voluntary social effort. Belgium, Holland and Denmark have all given special attention to agricultural and industrial development. Mr. Farley will be able to give particulars not easily accessible concerning such matters as credit banks, rural education, housing, the new Dutch poor law, and voluntary philanthropy. France has done much with co-partnership and profit-sharing. Finally there will be a general review of social legislation in Germany since 1870. We are particularly fortunate in having with us this close observer of continental social progress.

Hon. Adelbert Moot of Buffalo, N. Y., will give five lectures on citizens' rights, explaining these rights under state and federal constitutions and laws. There is lack of definite knowledge concerning the relation of individual, state, and federal rights, and the course will be not only interesting but very practical.

A course of five lectures each will be given by Mr. Bernard J. Newman of Philadelphia, on the essentials of public health as related to social welfare; by Mr. Elmer S. Forbes, on Housing and the Citizen; and by Miss Alice Henry on industrial problems as they effect women. Miss Henry has had wide experience in the women's labor movement, and will present her subject both historically and as a living question of the day. In view of the world-wide war, special interest will attach to the lectures by Dr. Sydney L. Gulick on an immigration policy and program for the United States, and its relation to world peace; and to the course by Dr. George W. Nasmyth, on the organization of the nations for social service.

The Institute provides both for the discussion of principles and their direct application. Not the least valuable course in the school will be that which is known as "The Laboratory Course", which will extend throughout the entire term. This will be under the direction of Mr. Newman and Mr. Forbes for three and two weeks respectively. It will begin with a consideration of the physical city, and instruction will be given in the methods of making a community study or survey. The students will do field work in the city of Meadville. While it will not be possible within the time available to make a complete survey of the town, it is expected that so far as it goes it will be scientific in method. Students returning to their own communities will be able to make the studies required to map out intelligently the social work which their churches may wisely undertake.

Following the study of the physical city, attention will be given to public utilities, their adequacy, and whether they are efficiently and satisfactorily conducted. If any defects are apparent,

they will be pointed out. Something will be said of their reasonable cost, and of the power and duty of the government to correct defects and abuses. The latter part of the course will take up particular subjects like housing, recreation, supplemental agencies, etc., showing how voluntary service may be used to assist and supplement the official and governmental agencies.

The beauty of Meadville and its fitness for the work of a summer school are well known. The students will find accommodations in the dormitories of the Theological School, and the lectures will be given on the grounds. The expenses of a five weeks stay will be $5.00 for registration and tuition fee. There will be no charge for room rent or for lights, but students will pay $1.00 per week for the care of rooms. Meals will be served in Hunnewell Hall at $5.00 a week. The total charge for the period of the Institute will be not over $35.00. This is an extremely small expense for what should prove a very enjoyable combination of instruction and recreation. It would be an admirable arrangement if Alliances or other organizations in the churches would send one of their members to the school and divide the expense between them, the student paying the necessary fees at the Institute and the society meeting the traveling expenses. In this way a church might provide itself with an interested and trained worker who would direct the social service activities of the Parish. Inquiries on the subject may be addressed to Mr. Elmer S. Forbes at 25 Beacon Street, or to Rev. Walter C. Greene, Meadville, Pa.

New England

The New England Field Secretary, Mr. Nobbs, has visited a number of places since the date of the last communication to *Word and Work*. One or two of these visits were in connection with matters of interest not only to the local church, but to the denomination. In Ayer, Mass., the minister, Rev. Frank B. Crandall, is leading the parish in the much needed work of repairing the church building. They find themselves able to do only a part of what is needed at present, but hope to complete the work in another year. As it is, what they are doing seems to be rather a tax on the number and resources of the parish. There are encouraging evidences of a good spirit of cooperation, and the strong faith which helps so greatly towards success.

The church in Whitman, even though lacking a settled minister, has maintained and increased the congregation, and whoever is settled there will find not only abundant work to do, but a good prospect of successful achievement.

The parish in Stoneham is housed in a building which is as yet too large for its ordinary needs. It would also be the better for some repairs. Under the leadership of Dr. Bell it has been much revived. With more of the same cooperative endeavor there seems no reason why the parish should not develop into a strong, useful body.

Sharon, Mass., is a parish which owns a handsome old meeting-house, and shares the services of a minister. Mr. Horner of Attleboro, preaches there in the afternoon. Sharon is a town which has felt the touch of the real estate magician. Its old places have changed ownership, but, unfortunately, the new owners are not to any appreciable extent Unitarians. A recent visit there, however, made the Secretary acquainted with a good sized company of people who are not lacking in interest and ability, and who are hopeful of seeing better days for the church. Of course, hope unbacked by real effort is about as nourishing as the hole in a doughnut; but the minister and an increasing number of the people can be counted upon for honest effort.

Milford and Wilton, N. H., jointly, have the services of Mr. Daniels as their minister. That is good for the church and good for the minister. Were each of these churches to endeavor to maintain a minister, they would be hard put to it. Certainly the ministers would be.

At a well attended meeting of the Women's Alliance in Wilton, it was

quite evident that that organization is not only of real service to the church but to the town. There being no other Women's Club in the town, the meetings of the Alliance are attended by women of other churches, and that is no bad thing for them or for the Unitarian cause. These two churches are wholesome influences in their town, and make them more desirable as places of residence. The country town which has a really good liberal church, in which emphasis upon "salvation by character" is more than a Sunday meeting phrase, has a great advantage. It meets a need which is more acutely felt in country than in city. To a great degree is such a church a lure to draw new residents and bind the old ones with the cords of common interest and affection.

There are those who feel that subsidies are not well bestowed when they are given to the support of our small churches in New England and yet there is one aspect of the case which will bear scrutiny. For instance, the church in Sandwich is an ancient one and, like the town, it is not so large as it used to be, yet one member was able to recall fifty people who are now connected with Unitarian societies in other places scattered from Cape Cod to California, some of them, people of more than ordinary usefulness. Surely a contribution of fifty active Unitarians from one small society is a gift not to be despised or easily valued. It is to be doubted whether money spent always brings as good returns as can be shown in Sandwich.

Preaching Missions

Rev. William L. Walsh of Billerica returned about the middle of April from his month of service for the Association, having been at work for two weeks at Memphis, Tenn., and two weeks at Birmingham, Ala. At Birmingham he conducted a preaching mission with services nightly between Sundays, and he confirmed the work accomplished by the preaching mission held there in the winter by Rev. Ralph E. Conner and Rev. Thomas P. Byrnes. The newly organized church there has every prospect of success.

Rev. Frederick M. Eliot, associate minister with Dr. Crothers in the First Parish, Cambridge, Mass., spent the five Sundays of April in the Mississippi Valley, preaching two Sundays at Omaha, Neb., one Sunday at St. Louis, Mo., (Church of the Messiah) and two Sundays at Memphis, Tenn., besides filling appointments at other places. He has given special attention to Sunday School work and philanthropic organization, and has been of valuable service along these and other lines. He will return to Boston by way of Cincinnati and New York.

Nominating Committee

In accordance with its duties the Nominating Committee of the American Unitarian Association reports the following as the final ballot for officers and directors for the year 1916-17. *President*, Samuel A. Eliot, Cambridge, Mass. *Vice Presidents*: From Northern New England, Clarence E. Carr, Andover, N. H.; From Southern New England, William H. Taft, New Haven, Conn.; From Middle States, Frank H. Hiscock, Syracuse, N. Y.; From Southern States, George Soule, New Orleans, La.; From Central West, John Lawrence Mauran, St. Louis, Mo.; From Rocky Mountain States, Paris Gibson, Great Falls, Mont.; From Pacific Coast, Horace Davis, San Francisco, Cal.; From Dominion of Canada, Milton F. Hersey, Montreal, Can. *Secretary*, Louis C. Cornish, Boston, Mass. *Assistant Secretary*, F. Stanley Howe, Cambridge, Mass. *Treasurer*, Henry M. Williams, Boston, Mass. *Directors*: From New England, George Hutchinson, Newton, Mass.; Charles O. Richardson, Weston, Mass.; John C. Robinson, Springfield, Mass.; George Wigglesworth, Milton, Mass. From Middle and Southern States, Donald Scott, New York, N. Y.; From Western States and Pacific Coast, Earl M. Wilbur, Berkeley, Cal.

For the Committee,

SANFORD BATES *Chairman*,
CHARLES A. WING, *Secretary*.

Publication Department

The New Hymn Book

Since the last issue the Unitarian societies in Charleston, West Virginia, Ridgewood, N. J., Melrose, Mass., Church of the Unity, Worcester, Mass., The Willow Place Chapel, Brooklyn, N. Y., and the Unitarian Sunday School of Cincinnati, Ohio, have adopted the New Hymn and Tune Book and the Universalist Church in Detroit, Mich., has purchased the Beacon Press Edition. In the case of two of the churches mentioned above the hymn books have been the gift of generous friends. It is hoped that many other churches now unable to purchase books may be favored in the same way by large-hearted members of their congregations who may take advantage of this opportunity to help their local societies.

The June Issue

Following the usual custom the June number of *Word and Work* will not appear until about the middle of the month. As this is the last number until Fall it is always delayed in order to include the accounts of the meetings of Anniversary Week which it would be impossible to do and get the paper out by June first. Subscribers will therefore understand the reason for delay and not feel obliged to write to the Association if their paper fails to appear before June 15th.

The New Tract

The Association has just issued Tract No. 280. It is entitled "The Religious Convictions of an American Citizen" by Hon. William Howard Taft, LL.D. The substance of the tract was the address delivered by Mr. Taft at San Francisco last summer as President of the General Conference. Unitarians everywhere will do well to read this tract and have copies available to distribute among persons who would be interested to read this excellent statement of the Unitarian point of view.

The Tract Catalog

It is hoped that the new and revised edition of the Tract catalog will be ready shortly after May 1. The process of revising, correcting, plating and printing has been a very slow one. Copies will be sent to all tract correspondents and ministers as soon as it is ready so that any persons who regularly receive new tracts need not apply in advance.

Word and Work

It is gratifying to note the increase in the subscription list for *Word and Work*. Two years ago our monthly edition was 5,000 copies whereas the current issue is 6,250 copies. A large part of this gain has been due to the *group rate subscription plan* and it is hoped that the churches which have tried it this year are planning to secure even larger lists next year and that many other societies contemplate adopting this method in the near future. Sheets for subscriptions will be gladly furnished together with information and sample copies upon request. A largely read denominational bulletin is one of the best assets for a strong and growing cause and all efforts on the part of individuals toward increasing the subscription of *Word and Work* will help to that end.

The Alliance of Unitarian and Other Liberal Christian Women

Headquarters: Room 10, 25 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass.

Miss Anna M. Bancroft, *President*
Hopedale, Mass.

Mrs. Lucia Clapp Noyes, *Treasurer*
11 St. John St., Jamaica Plain, Mass.

Mrs. Caroline S. Atherton, *Rec. Sec.*,
25 Beacon St., Boston, Mass.

Mrs. Robert H. Davis, *Cor. Sec.*,
226 Windermere Ave., Wayne, Pa.

Alliance Anniversaries

The Platform Alliance Meeting of Anniversary Week is being held this year in Tremont Temple. The program is full of interest and we are looking forward to a large Alliance gathering full of the enthusiasm which is always engendered by these great meetings of Anniversary Week.

Monday, May 22, 1916, 2.30 P. M. Tremont Temple, Boston Mass., Public Meeting. Devotional Service. Addresses by Rev. Merle St. Croix Wright, D.D.: *The Liberal Note in Modern Poetry.*

Mrs. Mary B. Davis: *A Liberal Faith for All People.*

Rev. Samuel R. Maxwell: *The Prospects for Our Church.*

Wednesday, May 24, 1916, 10 A. M. and 2 P. M. South Congregational Church, Exeter and Newbury Streets, Boston.

10 A. M. Annual meeting for the presentation of reports and transaction of business. Missionary conference.

Accredited delegates and life members must present credentials. Delegates unable to be present may send credentials before the meeting to The Alliance, 25 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass.

Delegates should be chosen according to the By-Laws, Articles III and XI.

"The payment of one dollar annually to a branch shall constitute any woman a member of The Alliance when one-third of such fee is sent to the general treasury, shall entitle her to take part in deliberative meetings, and shall make her eligible to serve as a delegate to business meetings."

"Every organized branch, except associate branches, shall be entitled to one delegate for any number of members under thirty, and another delegate for each thirty members additional to the first thirty."

2 P. M. Cheerful Letter Exchange. Post Office Mission.

3 P. M. General Conference for discussion of any Alliance questions.

Thursday, May 25, 1916, Channing Hall, 25 Beacon Street, Boston, 11 A. M. Cheerful Letter Conference. 4 P. M. Post Office Mission Conference.

If membership in any branch has changed since the last Manual was printed so that the branch is entitled to additional delegates (or to a smaller number), word should be sent to the Recording Secretary.

If a branch wishes to make a local member a delegate, it may do so by first appropriating money from the treasury to make up the dollar fee and then sending one-third of the amount to the Treasurer, Mrs. Noyes. Accredited delegates and life members must present credentials duly made out and signed.

The Endowment

April 20. The list of branches that have contributed $1.25 or more for each member follows:

Kennebunk, Maine.
Dover, N. H.
Franklin, N. H.
Montpelier, Vt.
Bedford, Mass.
Boston, Mass., Arlington St. Church.
Boston, Mass., Church of the Disciples.
Boston, Mass., First Church.
Boston, Mass., King's Chapel.
Boston, Mass., Second Church.
Boston, Mass., South Congregational.
Boston, Mass., Unity Circle.
Boston, Mass., Dorchester, First Parish.

Brookline, Mass., First Parish.
Cambridge, Mass., First Parish.
Cambridge, Mass., Third Cong.
Chestnut Hill, Mass.
Concord, Mass.
North Easton, Mass.
Fairhaven, Mass.
Framingham, Mass.
Greenfield, Mass.
Groton, Mass.
Hopedale, Mass.
Malden, Mass.
Medford, Mass.
Milton, Mass.
New Bedford, Mass., First Cong.
Salem, Mass., First Church.
Taunton, Mass.
Wellesley Hills, Mass.
Worcester, Mass., Second Parish.
Providence, R. I., First Cong.
Hartford, Conn.
Buffalo, N. Y.
Newburgh, N. Y.
Brooklyn, N.Y., Second Unitarian Soc.
Philadelphia, Pa., First Unitarian Ch.
Baltimore, Md.
Cincinnati, Ohio, First Cong. Church.
Cincinnati, Ohio, Unity Branch.
Cleveland, Ohio.
St. Louis, Mo., Unity Branch.
Wichita, Kan.,

Branches that have pledged or expect to send their full quota, most of them before May 1:

Boston, Mass., Bulfinch Place.
Boston, Mass., Jamaica Plain.
Boston, Mass., Roxbury, All Souls.
Lexington, Mass.
Mendon, Mass.
Salem, Mass., Second Church.
New London, Conn.
Newport, R. I.
Brooklyn, N. Y., Samaritan Alliance.
New York, N. Y., All Souls Branch.
New York, N. Y., Messiah Branch.
New York, N.Y., Lenox Ave Branch.
Flatbush, N. Y.
Edmonton, Alberta, Can.
Buffalo, N. Y., Parkside.
Dallas, Texas.
Lancaster, Pa.
Gouverneur, N. Y.
Quincy, Mass.

Junior Alliances

Ten Junior Alliances have responded to the Endowment Fund and it is a great satisfaction, not only to the Committee, but to the entire Board, that the loyal young women who will later be the pillars of The Alliance have been interested to co-operate. And in the years to come when the income of our Fund will help them to do good work, they will take a just pride that they were able to help in raising the large amount, even though their contributions may be very small. We ask all Junior Alliances that have not responded to consider this and we hope they will give now or pledge something during the coming year.

Fairhaven, Mass., has contributed $1.25 for each member	$31.25
Jamaica Plain, Mass.	5.00
Burlington, Vt.	5.00
Norton, Mass.	1.00
Albany, N. Y.	5.00
Belfast, Maine	2.00
Marietta, Ohio	2.00
Montreal, Can.	3.50
Louisville, Ky.	5.00
Watertown, Mass.	1.50

Will some member of each Junior Alliance write in regard to this before May 15 to Miss Bancroft, Hotel Somerset, Boston, Massachusetts?

Previously acknowledged	$11,059.31
From March 18 to April 20.	
Boston, Arlington St., additional	278.50
Davenport, Iowa	6.00
Wellesley Hills, Mass., additional	101.25
Belfast, Maine	31.00
Brooklyn, N. Y., Second Unitarian Society	102.00
Stoneham, Mass.	10.00
Dedham, Mass., additional	28.75
Woburn, Mass., more later	50.00
Chicago Associate Alliance	15.00
Evanston, Ill.	5.00
Uxbridge, Mass., additional	10.00
Waverley, Mass., additional	10.00
Fairhaven, Mass., Junior Alliance, $1.25 per member	31.25
Roxbury, Mass., All Souls, more later	2.00
Middleboro, Mass.	23.25

Boston, Mass., King's Chapel, additional 15.00
New York, Church of the Messiah, more later 11.25
Butte, Montana 5.00
South Natick, Mass. 10.00
Vineyard Haven, Mass. 1.00
Greenfield, Mass., additional .. 1.50
Berlin, Mass. 5.00
Salem, Mass., First Church .. 50.00
Franklin, N. H. 100.00
Long Beach, Cal. 11.75
Hopedale, Mass., additional.... 68.75
Littleton, Mass. 6.50
Barre, Mass., additional 5.25
Belfast, Me., additional 1.25
Dorchester, Mass., Elizabeth P. Channing 15.25
Danvers, Mass., more later 1.00
Lexington, Mass., more later .. 10.00
Humboldt, Iowa..... 10.00
Pepperell, Mass. 3.00
West Roxbury, Mass., Sunday School, First Parish 4.12
Lancaster, Pa. 5.00
Dover, N. H., additional 1.25
Cincinnati, Ohio, First Cong. Church 75.00
Yonkers, N. Y. 20.50
New Bedford, Mass. Unity Home 1.00
Westboro, Mass. 20.00
Passaic, N. J., additional 5.00
Taunton, Mass., additional 1.00
Duluth, Minn. 15.00
Lowell, Mass. 60.00
Springfield, Mass. 10.00
Ottawa, Can. 15.00
Portland, Me. 100.00
Concord, Mass., more later 25.00
Leominster, Mass. 100.00
Louisville, Ky., additional 30.00
Burlington, Vt. 87.50
Treasury of former Associate Alliance in Illinois 6.50
Madison, Wis., additional 15.00
Barnstable, Mass. 14.25
Belmont, Mass., additional ... 41.00
Whitman, Mass..... 6.00
Fall River, Mass., additional... 75.00
Toledo, Ohio 50.25
Chestnut Hill, Mass., additional 3.75
Duxbury, Mass. 7.00
West Newton, Mass., additional 75.00
Jamaica Plain, Mass., more later 180.00
Jamaica Plain Junior Alliance, additional 3.75
West Somerville, Mass., more later 1.00
Seattle, Wash., University Branch 10.00
Buffalo, N. Y., additional..... 55.50
St. Louis, Mo., Unity Branch .. 68.75
Newton, Mass., Channing Branch additional 25.00
Louisville, Ky., Junior Alliance. 5.00
Boston, Mass., Church of the Disciples

$50. In memory of Miss Abby W. May the first president of the Woman's Auxiliary Conference.

$50. In appreciation of Mrs. Charles Gordon Ames, the originator of the Alliance idea..... 155.00

Lawrence, Mass. 15.00
Salem, Mass., Second Church .. 53.20
Concord, Mass., more later 170.00
Worcester, Mass., Unity Church 41.00
Boston, First Church, additional 5.00
Flatbush, N. Y..... 55.45
Northfield, Mass. 25.00
Pittsburgh, Pa., Northside 5.00
New Bedford, Mass., additional 20.10
Sudbury, Mass. 5.00
Poughkeepsie, N. Y. 1.25
Scituate, Mass. 10.00
Pittsfield, Mass. 2.50
Dorchester, Mass., First Parish, additional 321.20
Keene, N. H. 67.00
Hanska, Minn. 13.50
Braintree, Mass., more later .. 10.00
Brooklyn, N. Y., Unity 67.50
Norton, Mass. 5.00
Clinton, Mass. 5.00
Youngstown, Ohio 20.25
Hartford, Conn., additional ... 42.50
Cincinnati, Ohio, Unity, additional 6.00
Elizabeth, N. J. 8.00
Santa Ana, Cal. 5.00
South Boston, Mass. 5.50
Waverley, Mass., additional .. 2.50
Hingham, Mass., additional, more later 22.00
Greenfield, Mass., additional .. 8.37
Wheeling, W. Va..... 3.00

Dorchester, Mass., Channing Branch	16.00
Providence, R. I., First Cong.	52.00
Watertown, Mass., Junior Alliance	1.50
Montpelier, Vt.	90.00
Milton, Mass.	227.05
Fairhaven, Mass., additional	5.00
Boston, Mass., South Cong., additional	174.00
Interest, April 1	108.37
Personal from $1.00 to $100.00	857.00
Total on deposit April 20	$16,019.67

252 branches have already responded
5 Associate Alliances.
10 Junior Alliances.
1 Sunday School.
1 Sewing Society and many personal contributions have been received.

An opportunity will be given every one to contribute much or little, in money or pledges at the Alliance meettings May 22 and 24. The pledges may be made redeemable at any time during the coming fiscal year of The Alliance but if pledges are made *now* they will enable us to go about our business with hearts thankful in the knowledge that this time of soliciting the Endowment is over. Missionary endeavor is calling us as never before. The influence of our church is needed. Let us make the strong pull which will carry this financial enterprise to the hoped for consummation.

Executive Board

The regular meeting of the Executive Board was held April 14, 1916, Miss Bancroft in the chair, twenty-six present.

A letter from Mrs. Davis outlined the trip on which she has started through West Virginia, with a visit to Marietta, Ohio, and then Virginia to Richmond for the Southern Conference.

Miss Bancroft reported a busy month, many letters written, and addresses at neighborhood meetings and guest days in New England and a visit to the branch at the Church of the Messiah, New York.

Mrs. Noyes reported that $50 contributed for War Relief has been forwarded to the International Union for its Correspondence Bureau.

The following names have been placed *In Memoriam*: Mrs. Warren Veazie, Miss Sarah H. Taylor, Mrs. Eliza F. Todd, Mrs. N. P. Lovering, Mrs. Ellen N. Steward, Mrs. Amelia M. Barnard.

Mrs. James A. Bailey, Jr., of Groton, Mass. has become a life member of The Alliance, and the Louisville branch has made its retiring president, Mrs. Charles F. Smith, a life member.

The Cheerful Letter Committee reported new branches, among them, one at Salt Lake City and one at Louisville, many names of correspondents assigned, a large number of current magazines distributed, and many letters written.

The Endowment Fund Committee reported gifts from Junior Alliances. It has received $50 from the Disciples branch Boston in memory of Miss Abbie W. May and a like amount in appreciation of Mrs. Charles G. Ames. Opportunity will be given to branches that have been unable to contribute their quota to pledge the balance and make payment next year.

Copies of the Code for Alliance Women may be ordered of The Alliance, 25 Beacon Street, Boston, at 10 cents each. These cards have been printed at private expense and the receipts will all go to swell the Endowment Fund.

Mrs. Scott of Bangor, Me., will represent the Board at the sessions of the Western Conference in St. Louis, Mo., May 16 and 17, and Mrs. Chamberlain, Western vice-president will preside at the Alliance meeting of the Conference.

The President and the two secretaries will be the Alliance delegates to the annual meeting of the Association.

On recommendation of the Southern Committee it was voted to repaint the Church at Swansboro, N. C., and to put a new roof on the building. It was voted to reengage the circuit ministers, Messrs. Cowan, Key, McHale, and Robinson for one year beginning May 1, 1916, on the same terms as for the present year.

An appeal for $150 for Hanford, Cal., was approved to be put before the branches in due season. A little help at this time will greatly cheer the Hanford workers.

With regret the Board accepted the resignations of Mrs. Farwell of Montague, Mass., Mrs. Sherman of New Bedford, Mass., and Mrs. Thorne of Dallas, Texas. To fill unexpired terms Mrs. A. B. Kimball of Fairhaven Mass. and Mrs. George T. Rice of Westwood, Mass. were elected.

On recommendation of the Finance Committee it was voted to appoint a Committee on Investments to consist of the President, Treasurer, and the Chairman of the Finance Committee, to have charge of the investment of the permanent funds of The Alliance.

The full and interesting reports from the Western branches were received with enthusiasm. Greetings were ordered to the Chicago Associate Alliance and the Western Co-workers to be conveyed by Mrs. E. C. Smith on her return to Illinois.

The next meeting will be held May 19, 1916.

CAROLINE S. ATHERTON,
Recording Secretary.

When Alliance women contemplate making gifts of books, they are urged to remember The Alliance book plate which will be sent in any quantity needed by applying to Alliance Headquarters, 25 Beacon St., Boston. The bookplate is a simple card with an ornamental border bearing the words "The Alliance of Unitarian Women presented by....." The use of the bookplate in the many libraries which are being distributed helps to give publicity to our name and organization and to make friends for us in many places.

Educating Children for Peace

In these days of conflict all over the world, it is difficult to write of Peace; the air is full of strife. However in inculcating in the children the spirit of justice and the golden rule can we not divert the over flowing energy of youth into civic channels and away from "battle, murder and sudden death."

Instead of the toys usually given to the boys, for instance, soldiers, guns, swords, pistols and the like, can not the ambition yes, patriotism be stirred in a helpful direction, by toys of bridge building, and other architectural *con*struction instead of *de*struction?

Loyalty to the flag must be taught to mean living for the flag, not dying for it. If, as we are told, the impressions of babyhood and early childhood are so lasting should we not be making good citizens rather than soldiers?

LILLA NEWHALL BREED,
Louisville, Ky.

News from the Branches.

The Portland, Oregon, branch has devoted much strength during the year to alleviating distress under the unusual condition of unemployment prevailing. Most interesting of all the events of the year was the 50th Anniversary of the Woman's organization and the honor guest of the day was Mrs. C. W. Burrage one of the seven original founders. Interesting indeed to the younger members, were the reminescences of early Portland and under the spell of the narrator's charm, all became young together, in a land where time had ceased to be. At the close of the day a photographer took a picture of the assemblage and as one beheld the dear faces of older members it was pleasing to note how many had achieved the blessing of the chosen of the Lord, of whom it is written they shall long enjoy the labor of their hands.

The Secretary of the Lancaster, Pa. branch states that she is steadily adding new members to its roll and "*Live* ones at that." Everybody should know that Lancaster surely *is* very much alive. If there is any undiscovered way of earning money the Lancaster women will be the ones to find it out. This winter they are preparing and serving supper for the Men's Liberal Club,

different women being appointed on the Committee for each monthly meeting. The difference between the cost of the supper and the money paid by the men goes into the Alliance treasury. A Junior Alliance has been formed of girls from 11 to 14. Last year they made themselves responsible for a number of evening meetings of various kinds. This is the only Junior Alliance in this section of the country and I am sure that everyone will wish it great success. The Sunday School is doing well and its little Kindergarten is in capable hands. A Men's Bible Class has recently been organized, aiming to attract outsiders who wish to study the Bible in a sensible way. This makes the third new Bible Class reported this year in our little group of Sunday Schools.

Mrs. Woodbridge, director for Eastern Pennsylvania writes:

Liberal thought *is* slowly gaining recognition in this community. The Lancaster Church and the Lancaster Alliance, our youngest Church and youngest Alliance, are now several years old and as yet, with no degree of surety, can we point to any new spot where seed planted is likely to come to any immediate fruition. Now and then we have thought there were *signs* of growth and that perhaps the shoots were rooted and about to break through into the sunshine and develop into healthy plants. Our hopes have not yet been realized possibly because the ground has been too fallow, or because the nursing has not been sufficiently skillful, but optimism is a great factor in success, and many of our people are imbued with its indomitable spirit, so we shall keep right on spreading and cherishing the faith and hoping for results. Some Springtime, when showers have been particularly abundant we may suddenly be surprised to see some young slip, having come up out of the darkness, fairly growing before our very eyes. We hope such a Springtime may come to us in the *near* future and that be followed by other Springs with similar visions until this whole Commonwealth of Pennsylvania shall be fairly dotted with Alliances.

Mrs. Stebbins, director for California, writes: "I consider the Society for Christian work *unbecomingly* modest in making no report of the wonderful luncheon given the five hundred and twenty women in August at the General Conference; but every one would testify, I am sure, that it was a very beautiful and rarely well-conducted occasion."

The Berkeley, Cal., Branch now belongs to the Berkeley Federation of Church Women, and sends delegates to the meetings and hopes to give inspiration as well as receive it.

The Los Angeles Branch finds its attendance increases on those days when an invitation to a member's home is accepted. On these occasions each member takes an article of food and they have a picnic luncheon besides the regular program. To their special charity, the Maternity Cottage, and to a Day and Night Nursery lately added, they give $120 each year.

The Santa Cruz, Cal., Branch is out of debt and has done much in the past year to aid the little church financially. At the annual church meetings there is often talk of discontinuing, but the Alliance members feel that their work together for a common aim has meant too much to them and that their efforts have, after all, been successful.

The Palo Alto Alliance is enthusiastic about their church garden, its fountain, goldfish, sun dial and beautiful trees and shrubs. The garden proves a wonderful gathering place for the Sunday School.

The San Jose Branch has abolished all bazars and fairs, but has a small box for "free will offerings" in evidence at meetings.

Appeals

Appeals stand as follows:

Ellsworth, Me., parsonage	$174
Seattle, Wash., University Church furnishings	312
Italian Mission	25
Missionary in China	50
Kingston, Jamaica, church building	89
Hanford, Cal., church furnishings	150
War Relief	

Young People's Religious Union of the Unitarian Church

Headquarters: Room 11, 25 Beacon Street, Boston

Hon. SANFORD BATES, *President*

Miss GRACE R. TORR, *Secretary* Mr. O. ARTHUR MCMURDIE, *Treasurer*

Board of Directors' Monthly Meeting

The ninth regular monthly meeting of the Executive Board of the Young People's Religious Union for 1915-1916, was held in Room 11, 25 Beacon St., Boston, Mass., on Wednesday afternoon, April 5, 1916, at 2.30 o'clock.

In the absence of the President, Vice-president Schumacher presided and there were present: Mr. Allen, Mr. Ives, Miss Richards, Miss Simmons and the secretary.

After routine business, Miss Richards, the Chairman of the Extension Committee, reported having written letters to supervisors and also having made thirty-six districts instead of eighteen as heretofore. A very interesting letter from Mr. Charles E. Thompson, Jr., the supervisor of the Central Pacific District, was read. On motion of Mr. Ives,

VOTED: to accept the committee's report.

The Union-at-Large Chairman, Miss Simmons, reported 86 tracts and as many copies of the March "*Word and Work*" sent, the tract being Rev. Augustus P. Reccord's "The Paradox of Prayer". This report was accepted as given.

The Finance Committee reported, through Mr. Allen, the Chairman, that its work was included in the secretary's monthly report.

Mr. Ives, the Chairman of the Policy Committee, requested suggestions for the coming year; and a prolonged discussion of ways and means followed.

It was suggested that the Young People's Religious Union invite the Young People's Christian Union to its twentieth Annual Meeting, on Thursday, May 25, 1916.

VOTED: that the matter be referred to the president and secretary, as members of the Annual Meeting Committee.

Several other matters, relating to the Annual Meeting, were discussed; and no action being taken, it was, on motion of Mr. Ives,

VOTED: to adjourn.

GRACE R. TORR,
Secretary.

Boston Federation

The Boston Federation of Young People's Religious Unions held its annual Indoor Picnic at the Third Religious Society in Dorchester, Massachusetts, on Saturday, March 25, 1916. The picnic began at four o'clock in the afternoon when all joined together for games of all sorts. These lasted until about six o'clock when the company adjourned to the supper room and had a basket supper. Cocoa was served by the Lawrance Union. There were about sixty people who came to enjoy this part of the fun. In the evening a great many more came and there was dancing for the remainder of the evening.

South Middlesex Federation

The last meeting of the South Middlesex Federation took place at Arlington, Mass., on Sunday, April 16, 1916. At four o'clock, routine business, with reports, etc., were in order, after which Miss Caroline L. Carter of Hingham, Mass. spoke. In the evening, at seven o'clock, Rev. Palfrey Perkins of Brighton gave an inspiring address of special importance to young people, entitled "The Relation of the Young People to The Church."

A picnic at Waverley Oaks, on Saturday, May 6, will bring the season to a close.

Meadville Federation

"Our meeting at Youngstown, Ohio, the last of March, was very interesting

and also well attended, which means more to us than may be supposed. the 'young people' who attended formed a small part of the audience, but it was very encouraging to know that now the older people are becoming enough interested in us to attend our meetings in a body. Our president is a student of the Meadville Theological School and is an interested and enthusiastic worker. There are only seven societies enrolled but they were all represented at the meeting and gave very interesting reports. Some one from each church in the Conference, not having a young people's society of any kind, explained briefly the situation and two of them told of societies contemplated for the future."

The $30,000 Fund

The Endowment Fund grows slowly, yet we are hopeful of securing the whole amount in due course of time. That we have had to compete with various other funds has been unfortunate; but we cannot help being glad for the success that has crowned their efforts.

We hope that every Unitarian who has the future of the denomination at heart will turn now to the Young People's Religious Union and help this organization to its $30,000 goal. What Mrs. Mary B. Davis, the Corresponding Secretary of The Alliance, has to say in a recent issue of the *Christian Register*, regarding the Alliance Endowment Fund, is equally true of the fund the young people are trying to raise.

Appeals have been made to all our unions, to our ministers, to our Life Members and to many other interested friends; the president has made two trips in its behalf; and three special meetings have been held. And yet we have no very large amount to our credit. To date there stand on our books $2,019 in pledges and $3,501.27 in actual cash, making a total of $5,576.61, including interest.

Remember our *Young People* — to help them!

The Annual Meeting

On Thursday, May 25, occurs the Twentieth Annual Meeting, which we urge all our union members and friends to attend. The afternoon business meeting, with reports, election of officers, etc., takes place at two o'clock in the South Congregational Church, Boston, Mass. The change in name is to come up for consideration at this time. In the evening at half past seven o'clock, the public meeting is to be held in the church auditorium. All the past presidents have been invited to take some part in the service and there will be brief addresses by Rev. Thomas Van Ness, Rev. John Haynes Holmes, Rev. Henry Hallam Saunderson and Rev. Dudley H. Ferrell.

Notices will be sent out as usual two weeks in advance. The three delegates allowed unions in good standing may be appointed now.

Field Notes

The Disciples' Guild, Boston Mass. "The Guild devoted a recent meeting to the celebration of the 75th Anniversary of the founding of the Disciples' Church. On Sunday, April 9, the Guild made a pilgrimage to all the church's former places of worship. The members assembled at the First United Presbyterian Church, from which point they proceeded on their pilgrimage, led by Mr. Louis E. Nash. All the members of the congregation were invited to join the Guild on this occasion."

South Boston, Mass. "At a recent gathering of about forty young people in the Unitarian Church, South Boston, the Hawes Guild was re-organized. It will meet on the first Sunday of every month at seven o'clock and will also hold social meetings. At the first regular meeting a question box was conducted, the pastor being in charge."

Fitchburg, Mass. The Y. P. R. U. of Fitchburg is having a year of profit and hopefulness: business meetings are held twice a month and regular Sunday evening devotional meetings are held monthly. An occasional play is given

and the members hold themselves ready for every opportunity to assist the life of the church.

Nantucket, Mass. "We organized a year ago, elected officers and selected subjects and leaders for nine months. Our membership list then numbered twenty members and that was all that attended. We have no meetings during July, August and September. We begin the year the first Sunday in October. When the New Year started both our membership and attendance increased quite rapidly; every Sunday evening there are new members joining and our attendance is still increasing. We had a social March 17 in the vestry, the tables being decorated with green and there being a favor at each place; the attendance was forty two. The first part of the evening games were played followed by refreshments."

Pittsfield, Mass. The Francis David Fellowship, composed of young people in the Pittsfield Church, has recently been formed; it hopes soon to affiliate as a member of the central organization.

Plymouth, Mass. The Pilgrim Society, Miss Kathryn Graves, secretary, is made up entirely of young people of High School age; it holds strictly religious meetings every Sunday evening, when matters of vital importance to these minds are discussed. So great has been the interest that the members have requested that the season be prolonged throughout the spring months.

Wollaston, Mass. Wollaston has what has hitherto been unique in our body — a Junior Y. P. R. U., whose members have evinced a lively interest in all that pertains to the work.

Portland, Maine. "Our society was started only last year, and we are not yet on our feet. We hope that as our society grows our contribution will grow also, and that we may be able to do more in a year or so."

Exeter, N. H. "The Exeter Guild has just affiliated with the central organization and we are very glad to welcome it to our fellowship. Miss Helen Tufts is the secretary."

Montclair, N. J. "Our activities have been mainly along organization lines. That is, we are trying to get the Unity Players into shape for their first performance by local talent. The actors are taken from among the different churches, not just our own, and it is the hope of the leaders in this movement that we may have a *Community* body instead of Unity Players. Great interest is being taken in the new organization, especially since we had two separate groups of outside actors present plays in the church under the auspices of the Unity Players."

Dallas, Texas. "Our Dallas Society has been having some very good meetings. A recent paper on Leigh Hunt was very interesting. Rev. D. M. Wilson was present at that meeting, throwing considerable light on the life of Leigh Hunt that was most instructive. At the following meeting a review of Mr. Rihbany's 'A Far Journey' was given, Mr. Gilmour adding some other facts about this remarkable man and impressing upon us the fact that young people can do great things even under the hardest kinds of trials. 'Three Phases of My Religious Life' was another interesting topic, portraying as it did the struggles of a young man through orthodoxy, doubt and final triumph in the glory of the liberal thought and religion. This speaker is a student at the Southern Methodist University. A paper on 'Books and Reading' came next. We have two meetings during April, May and June. Our Post Office Mission work is doing great things in her line; the Post Office Mission is in the hands of the Y. P. R. U. in our church, and we could not have a more consecrated worker for the cause than this young lady."

Toronto, Canada. "All our members have the interests of the Union at heart and will help when the opportunity offers, but the large number of war and patriotic organizations in the city, all making their particular appeal, makes it difficult to raise funds for ordinary religious purposes. Owing to conditions caused by the war, we have practically disbanded for the present season, at least."

Unitarian Temperance Society

Rev. Edgar S. Wiers, *President*, Montclair, N. J.

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Watch Prohibition

One Month of Prohibition

Spokane, Washington

	Jan. 1915 Saloons	Jan. 1916 Prohibition
Arrests for Drunkenness	120	38

Three Months of Prohibition

Birmingham, Ala.

(Oct., Nov., Dec.)

	1914 Saloons	1915 Prohibition
Arrests for Drunkenness	999	340

Six Months of Prohibition

Strict Prohibition Law

Arizona (10 Towns)

January 1 to July 1

	1914 Saloons	1915 Prohibition
Arrests for Drunkenness	2,391	361

Six Years of Prohibition

Loose Prohibition Law

Atlanta, Georgia

Average Yearly Arrests for Drunkenness in relation to population.

1902-1907 Before Prohibition	1908-1913 After Prohibition
1 to 32.2	1 to 67.5

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